

A RESOLUTION BY

BY COUNCILMEMBER FELICIA A. MOORE

Felicia A. Moore

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SENIOR AND LOW AND MODERATE INCOME CITIZENS TO OFFSET THE IMPENDING WATER AND SEWER RATE INCREASES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta operates several Water Reclamation and Pumping Facilities for the purpose of removing for drinking and cleaning its waste and storm water for deposit back into the Chattahoochee River and other tributaries; and

WHEREAS, the Waste Water and Water Departments are preparing to do major renovations and improvements to these facilities and will have to raise both water and sewer rates to pay for the improvements; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Atlanta (rate payers) will be faced with a rate increase of 30% or more over the next three years to help pay for these improvements; and

WHEREAS, the average citizen of Atlanta cannot afford this type of increase, since roughly 24.4% of Atlanta households have annual incomes of less than \$15,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Federal and State Governments are requiring these upgrades and no funds are available from either entity to shift this awesome burden away from the rate payers of Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Atlanta are keenly aware of the problems the city faces with its water issues as mandated by the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act and the 1998/9 Consent Decree Orders; however, they are also concerned with providing for their families, paying taxes and just trying to survive in a slowing economy.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA; that the Mayor or his designees (Finance, Public Works and Water Departments) are requested to collaborate to develop alternatives in assisting senior and low and moderate income citizens with paying the proposed increases.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor or his designees (Finance, Public Works and Water Departments) are to explore installments, private donations, grants from the Governor's Office of Community Affairs, private trust funds, the City's Care and Conserve Fund, etc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor or his designee seek other funding mechanisms via grant proposals and low interest loan applications and report their requests and findings to Council through the City Utilities Committee in ten (10) days.

AND FINALLY, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.